

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claim 1 as follows:

as
SUB 1
1. (Amended) A disposable diaper comprising:
an elastically stretchable covering member for covering a diaper wearer's crotch and waist regions;
a liquid-pervious sheet for contacting with skin of said diaper wearer;
a liquid-absorbent core member sandwiched between said liquid-pervious sheet and said covering member;
said covering member consisting of an elastically stretchable first layer and an inelastically stretchable second layer formed with a plurality of continuous fibers, said continuous fibers being fixed to said elastically stretchable first layer in at least a pair of bonding zones spaced from each other so that a ratio of L/D , where L is a length of said continuous fiber extending between said pair of the bonding zones and D is a distance in straight line between said pair of bonding zones, is larger in a first zone of said covering member than in a remaining zone.

Please amend Claim 2 as follows:

2. (Amended) The diaper according to Claim 1, wherein said first zone comprises a transversely middle zone of said diaper.

Please amend Claim 3 as follows:

3. (Amended) The diaper according to Claim 1, wherein said elastically stretchable first layer comprises at least one of an elastically stretchable film and a nonwoven fabric made of crimped fiber.

09864836 "052401

Please amend Claim 4 as follows:

4. (Amended) The diaper according to Claim 1, wherein said continuous fibers of said inelastically stretchable second layer are made of at least one of polypropylene and propylene copolymer.

Please amend Claim 5 as follows:

5. (Amended) The diaper according to Claim 1, wherein said elastically stretchable first layer further includes a liquid-impervious sheet and lies inside said second layer.

Please amend Claim 6 as follows:

6. (Amended) The diaper according to Claim 1, wherein said elastically stretchable first layer further comprises a liquid-impervious sheet and lies inside said inelastically stretchable second layer so that said elastically stretchable first layer functions as a liquid-impervious backsheet for said liquid-absorbent core member.

Please amend Claim 7 as follows:

7. (Amended) A process for making a disposable diaper having an elastically stretchable covering member for covering a diaper wearer's crotch and waist regions, a liquid-pervious sheet for contacting with skin of said diaper wearer, and a liquid-absorbent core member sandwiched between said liquid-pervious sheet and said covering member, said process comprising the steps of:

providing an elastically stretchable first layer destined to form said covering member;

providing a second layer formed with a plurality of inelastically stretchable continuous fibers;

as cont

09864836 052404
104250 92849860